

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, TSPA, UN
SUBJECT: OUTER SPACE LIABILITY CONVENTION

A NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL DATED 22 DECEMBER REQUESTS
INFORMATION FROM THE US, AS ONE OF THE THREE DEPOSITARIES
FOR THE OUTER SPACE LIABILITY CONVENTION, WITH RESPECT TO THE
DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CONVENTION. THE NOTE READS
AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS PRESENTS HIS
COMPLIMENTS TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND HAS THE HONOUR
TO REFER TO THE LETTER DATED 20 MARCH 1975 BY WHICH THE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA TRANSMITTED FOR REGISTRATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE
102 OF THE CHARTER CERTIFIED COPIES OF THE CONVENTION ON
THE INTERNATIONAL LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY SPACE
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OBJECTS, OPENED FOR SIGNATURE AT LONDON, MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON
ON 29 MARCH 1972.

2.ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION PROVIDED, THE CONVENTION ENTERED
INTO FORCE ON 1 SEPTEMBER 1972, THE DATE OF DEPOSIT OF THE
FIFTH INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE

XXIV (3) OF THE CONVENTION. HOWEVER, IT WOULD APPEAR FROM THE INFORMATION TRANSMITTED TO US BY THE DEPOSITARIES THAT 6 INSTRUMENTS HAD BEEN DEPOSITIED AS OF THAT DATE: BULGARIA ON 16 MAY 1972 AT LONDON, 14 JUNE 1972 AT WASHINGTON AND 14 MAY 1973 AT MOSCOW; MALI ON 9 JUNE 1972 AT WASHINGTON; IRELAND ON 29 JUNE 1972 AT LONDON AND WASHINGTON; ECUADOR ON 17 AUGUST 1972 AT WASHINGTON; THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC ON 30 AUGUST 1972 AT MOSCOW; AND NIGER ON 1 SEPTEMBER 1972 AT WASHINGTON. IF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DATES ARE CORRECT, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE CONVENTION ENTERED INTO FORCE ON 30 AUGUST 1972, RATHER THAN 1 SEPTEMBER 1972. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WOULD BE OBLIGED IF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE COULD LET HIM KNOW HIS VIEWS IN THIS REGARD.

3. SINCE THE CONVENTION IN QUESTION HAS BEEN REGISTERED AS OF 20 MARCH 1975 AND IS NOW BEING PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION, THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE'S PROMPT ATTENTION IN THIS MATTER WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.
22 DECEMBER 1976

UNQUOTE
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